

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1-31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (currently amended): A composition, comprising: a therapeutically effective amount of a therapeutic agent, and a polymeric wax comprising the reaction product of a polybasic acid or derivative thereof, a fatty acid and a polyol, said polymeric wax comprising an aliphatic polyester backbone having fatty acid ester groups pending therefrom and having a melting point less than about 70°C, as determined by differential scanning calorimetry.

Claim 33 (original): The composition of claim 32 wherein said polymeric wax comprises the reaction product of said polybasic acid or derivative thereof and a monoglyceride, said monoglyceride comprising the reaction product of said fatty acid and said polyol.

Claim 34 (original): The composition of claim 32 wherein said polybasic acid or derivative thereof is selected from the group consisting of succinic acid, succinic anhydride, malic acid, tartaric acid, citric acid, diglycolic acid, diglycolic anhydride, glutaric acid, glutaric anhydride, adipic acid, pimelic acid, suberic acid, sebacic acid and derivatives thereof.

Claim 35 (original): The composition of claim 33 wherein said monoglyceride is selected from the group consisting of monostearoyl glycerol, monopalmitoyl glycerol, monomyristoyl glycerol, monocaproyl glycerol, monodecanoyl, monolauroyl glycerol, monolinoleoyl glycerol and monooleoyl glycerol.

Claim 36 (original): The composition of claim 35 wherein said polybasic acid derivative is succinic anhydride.

Claim 37 (original): The composition of claim 35 wherein said polybasic acid is succinic acid.

Claim 38 (original): The composition of claim 32 wherein said polymeric wax has a number average molecular weight between about 1,000 g/mole and about 100,000 g/mole, as measured by gel permeation chromatography using polystyrene standards.

Claim 39 (original): The composition of claim 32 wherein said polymeric wax is branched.

Claim 40 (original): The composition of claim 32 wherein said polymeric wax comprises a copolymer.

Claim 41 (original): The composition of claim 40 wherein said polymeric wax copolymer comprises the reaction product of said fatty acid, said polyol, and at least two of said polybasic acids or derivatives thereof selected from the group consisting of succinic acid, succinic anhydride, malic acid, tartaric acid, citric acid, diglycolic acid and diglycolic anhydride.

Claim 42 (original): The composition of claim 40 wherein said polymeric wax copolymer comprises the reaction product of said polybasic acid or derivative thereof, and at least two monoglycerides selected from the group consisting of monostearoyl glycerol, monopalmitoyl glycerol, monomyristoyl glycerol, monocaproyl glycerol, monodecanoyl glycerol, monolauroyl glycerol, monolinoleoyl glycerol and monooleoyl glycerol.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The composition of claim 40 wherein said polymeric wax copolymer comprises the reaction product of said polybasic acid or derivative thereof, a monoglyceride selected from the group consisting of monostearoyl glycerol, monopalmitoyl glycerol, monomyristoyl glycerol, monocaproyl glycerol, monodecanoyl glycerol, monolauroyl glycerol, monolinoleoyl glycerol and monooleoyl glycerol, and at least one additional polyol selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, 1,2-propylene glycol, 1,3-propanediol, bis-2-

hydroxyethyl ether, 1,4-butanediol, 1,5-pentanediol, 1,6-hexanediol, 1,8-octanediol, 1,10-decanediol, 1, 12-dodecanediol, linear poly(ethylene glycol), branched poly(ethylene glycol), linear poly(propylene glycol), branched poly(propylene glycol), linear poly(ethylene-co-propylene glycol)s and branched poly(ethylene-co-propylene glycol)s.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The composition of claim 32 wherein said therapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of antiinfectives, analgesics, anorexics, antihelmintics, antiarthritics, antiasthmatics, anticonvulsants, antidepressants, antidiuretics, antidiarrheals, antihistamines, antiinflammatory agents, antimigraine preparations, antinauseants, antineoplastics, antiparkinsonism drugs, antipruritics, antipsychotics, antipyretics, antispasmodics, anticholinergics, sympathomimetics, xanthine derivatives, calcium channel blockers, beta-blockers, antiarrhythmics, antihypertensives, diuretics, vasodilators, central nervous system stimulants, decongestants, hormones, steroids, hypnotics, immunosuppressives, muscle relaxants, parasympatholytics, psychostimulants, sedatives, tranquilizers, naturally derived or genetically engineered proteins, polysaccharides, glycoproteins, or lipoproteins, oligonucleotides, antibodies, antigens, cholinergics, chemotherapeutics, hemostatics, clot dissolving agents, radioactive agents and cystostatics.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The composition of claim 44 wherein said therapeutic agent is risperidone.

Claim 46 (canceled)

Claim 47 (canceled)

Claim 48 (original): The composition of claim 32 further comprising an aliphatic polyester prepared from the group of monomers consisting of glycolide, L-lactide, D-lactide, meso-lactide, rac-lactide, ϵ -caprolactone, trimethylene carbonate, p-dioxanone, 1,4-dioxanone, 1,4-dioxepan-2-one, 1,5-dioxepan-2-one and substituted derivatives thereof.

Claim 49-56 (canceled)

Claim 57 (original): The composition of claim 32 wherein said polymeric wax has a melting point between about 25°C and about 70°C.

Claim 58 (canceled)